The fuel injection apparatus has a fuel supply pump (12) that supplies fuel to the intake side of a high-pressure pump (14), wherein the high-pressure pump (14) delivers fuel into a reservoir (16) in accordance with operating parameters of the engine, with a fuel metering device (44) for adjusting the fuel quantity that the high-pressure pump (14) delivers into the reservoir (16), wherein the fuel metering device (44) has an actuator (45) and a control valve (46) triggered by this actuator, wherein the control valve (46) has a valve element (54) that is guided in a cylinder bore (52) of a valve housing (50), can be slid by the actuator (45) in opposition to a return force (60), and in cooperation with an opening (62) in the circumference of the cylinder bore (52) connected to an inlet from the fuel supply pump (12) or an outlet to the high-pressure pump (14), controls a flow cross section in the connection from the fuel supply pump (12) to the high-pressure pump (14). The valve element (54) can close the flow cross section at least almost completely and also controls a connection of the inlet from the fuel supply pump (12) or of the outlet to the high-pressure pump (14) to a discharge region, and the valve element (54) opens this connection when it closes the flow cross section.